

# **LINCOLN-LANCASTER COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT REPORT**

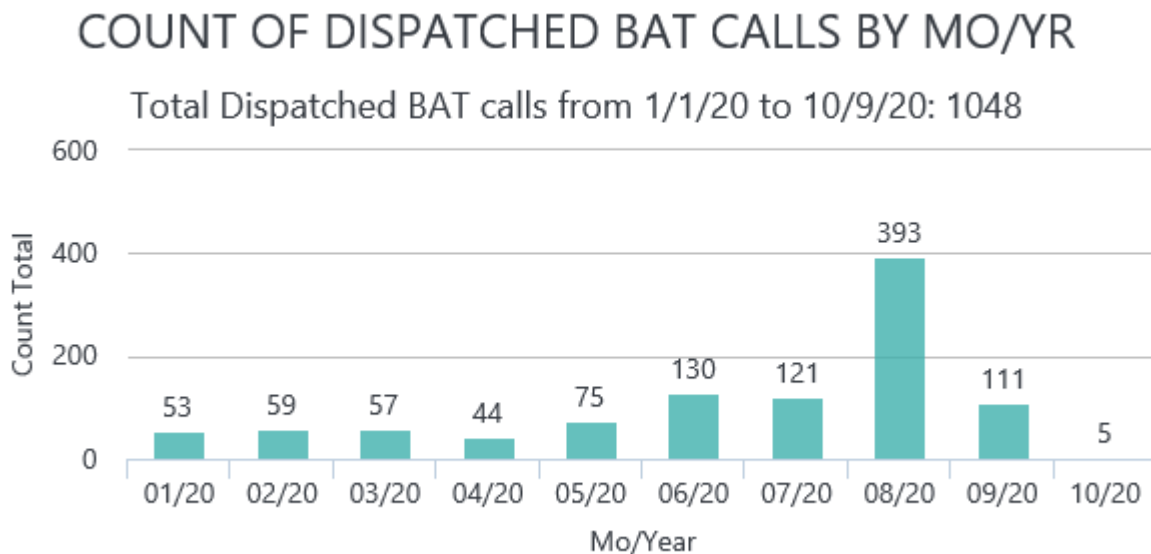
## **TO THE LINCOLN-LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH**

**SEPTEMBER, 2020**

### **ANIMAL CONTROL**

Animal Control staff are interviewing to fill a vacancy for an Animal Control Officer I position. The position is expected to be filled by October 19th.

Public requests for bat calls and bat removals has dropped.



Bite cases are down for FY 19-20. There were 486 in FY 19-20 (these include dogs and cats), for FY 18-19 there were 662 and for FY 17-18 there were 616.

Pet license sales were up for FY 19-20 at 63,171 (dog and cat) compared to 61,353 for FY 18-19.

The Animal Control Manager continues to help with the Department's response to the pandemic. He is working in the ICS Operations section. No other AC staff are directly involved with the Department's response.

## DENTAL HEALTH

### WIC Program

#### Caseload (Participation)



<b>Total</b>	<b>3816 (-83 Aug 2019)</b>	<b>State: 34,294 (-6 Aug 2019)</b>
<b>Main</b>	2671 (+18 Jul 2020)	
<b>Cornhusker Clinic</b>	1145 (+24 Jul 2020)	
<b>%Enrolled with Benefits</b>	91.34%	

#### Participants by Category/Breastfeeding Information

	<b>LLCHD</b>	<b>State of Nebraska</b>
<b>Total Women</b>	816 (21.4%)	7,230 (21.1%)
<b>Total Children</b>	2,190 (57.4%)	19,345 (56.4%)
<b>Total Infants</b>	810 (21.2%)	7,719 (22.5%)
<b>Infants Receiving Breastmilk</b>	292 (7.7%)	2,713 (7.9%)
<b>Infants Exclusive Breastmilk</b>	121 (3.2%)	921 (2.7%)

#### Mentoring:

(Number and school)

##### Students

<b>Interns</b>	
<b>Volunteers</b>	
<b>LMEP Residents</b>	

#### WIC QI—No Show Rates:

	<b>FFY 20 Main Office</b>	<b>FFY 20 North Office</b>	<b>FFY 20 LLCHD Overall</b>
<b>October</b>	19.8%	17.5%	19.1%
<b>November</b>	19.9%	26.7%	22.1%
<b>December</b>	19.6%	23.3%	20.8%
<b>January</b>	21.4%	20.5%	21.1%
<b>February</b>	19.0%	22.8%	20.3%
<b>March</b>	11.1%	14.1%	12.2%
<b>April</b>	9.5%	14.3%	11.4%
<b>May</b>	10.5%	11.5%	10.9%
<b>June</b>	13.0%	16.5%	14.2%
<b>July</b>	14.4%	17.3%	15.4%
<b>August</b>	14.2%	14.7%	14.3%
<b>September</b>			
<b>Average</b>	15.7%	18.11%	16.5%

Aug caseload was 3,816 (-83 from Aug 2019 and +18 from Jul 2020). We had 21 working days in August. There was a slight decline in no-show rates compared to the previous month. LLCHD WIC is completing all WIC visits via phone through Sept 2020, due to waivers. USDA will decide on waiver extensions beyond the end of the FFY. Waiver extensions must also be approved by NE DHHS, as well as Governor Ricketts, to be implemented.



## **DENTAL HEALTH**

### **Dental Clinic Services:**

- Total number of clients served (unduplicated count): 477
- Total number of patient encounters (duplicated client count): 614
- Total number of patient visits (duplicated provider appointments/visits): 888
- Total number of Racial/Ethnic and White non-English speaking patients: 409 (86%)
- Total number of children served: 371(78%)
- Total number of clients enrolled in Medicaid: 412 (86%)
- Total number of all clients with language barriers: 281 (59%)

(Arabic, Burmese, Chinese, Farsi, French, Karen, Kurdish, Russian, Spanish, Ukranian, Vietnamese, Other)

The dental clinic provided 355 fewer provider visits when compared to August 2019 and 23 fewer appointments when compared to July 2020 with August having 1 clinical day less than July.

Total Community Outreach: 18

Dental Screening and Fluoride Varnish Program:  
CEDARS – 18 children

# ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH

## EPH Monthly Report – October 2020

### Program Area: Waste Management - Hazardous Materials Emergency Response

**Goals:** Protect human health and the environment by: reducing exposures to hazardous materials; assuring proper management and disposal of special wastes; preventing hazardous waste from being illegally disposed of in the Bluff Road Landfill; preventing illness and disease caused by improper waste management; and preventing damage to the environment.

**Indicator:** Respond to all LFR and Rural FD, Emergency Management and Law Enforcement (LPD, Sheriff, and State Patrol) requests for assistance with hazardous materials spills and releases within 30 minutes. **FY20:** Staff estimate - 100%.

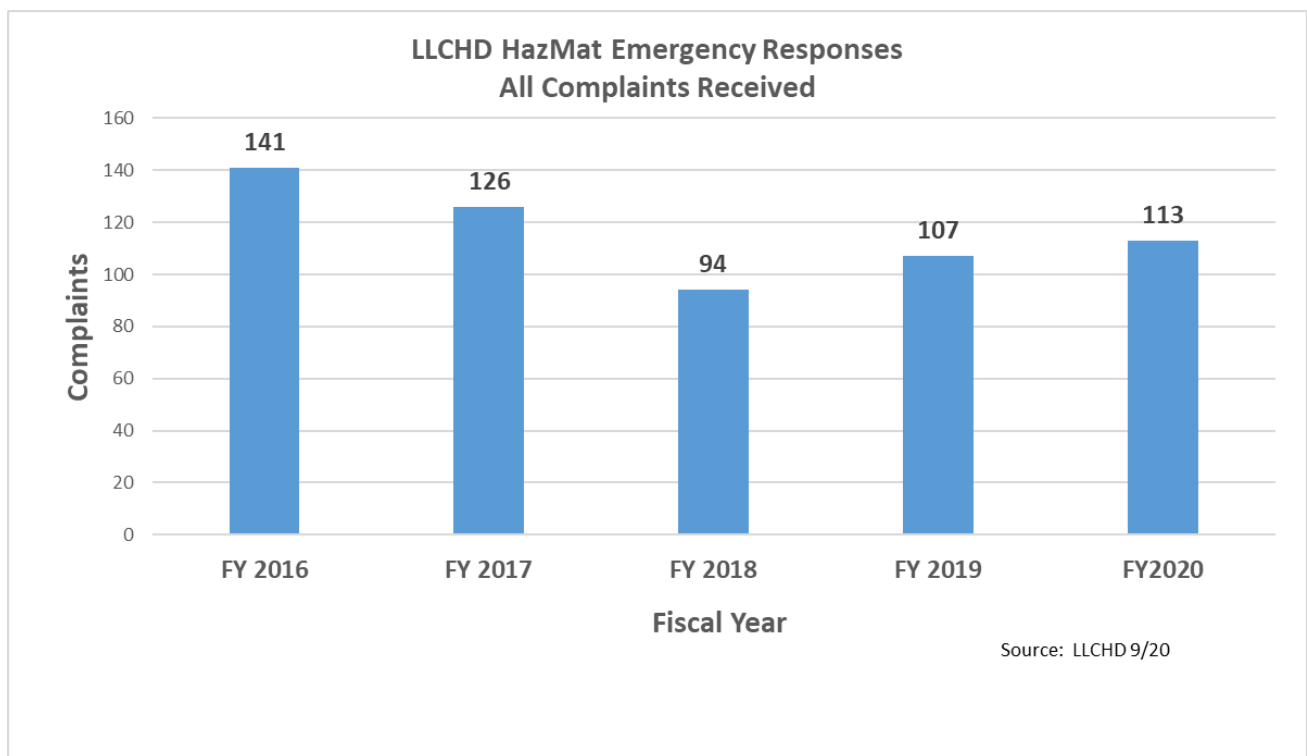
**Funding/Source:** Grants in Aid, Waste Hauler Occupation Tax

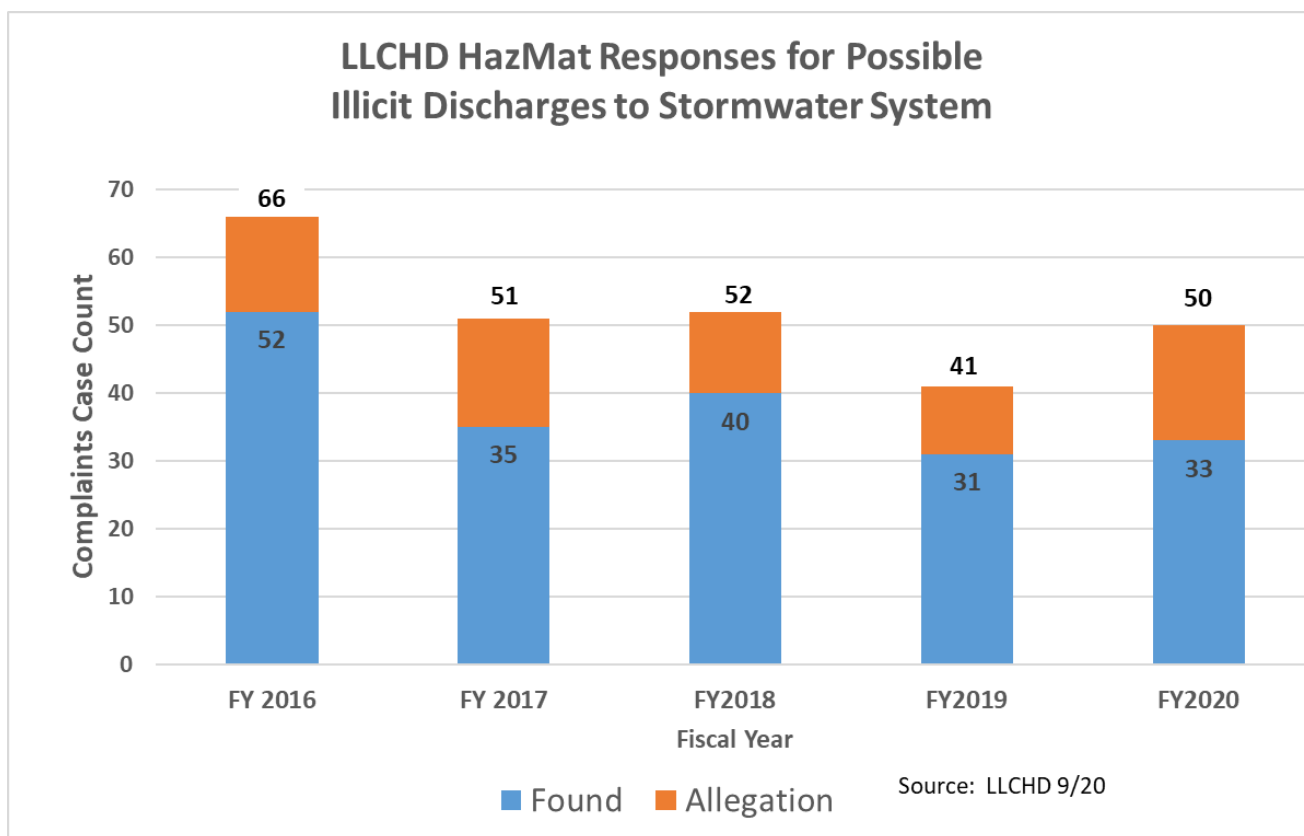
### Comparison:

#### **Hazardous Materials Responses**

Fiscal Year	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20
HazMat Responses	104	141	126	94	107	113

All LLCHD HazMat Emergency Responses





Total hazardous materials responses increased as did responses to illicit discharges to water in FY20. The increase in HazMat responses in FY20 was primarily a reflection of an increase of unfounded allegations. Of the 113 responses in FY20, 50 were illicit discharges that had the potential to impact water and 33 had actual water impact. Health maintains contracts with private contractors for the City and County for both hazardous materials clean up and disposal.

**Description:** Environmental Public Health Division’s Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Team (HazMat Team) is on call 24/7 and responds immediately to all requests from 911, Lincoln Fire and Rescue, rural fire departments, and law enforcement agencies for assistance with hazardous materials spills and releases. These staff are highly trained (HazMat Tech Level and beyond) in responding to chemical, biological, and radiological hazards. Health’s HazMat Team:

- assesses public health and environmental risk related to chemical releases,
- prevents further human exposures and environmental contamination,
- takes samples of air, water, soil, or suspect chemicals and
- ensures that environmental cleanup is completed safely and the environment is returned to a safe condition.

In a typical year, approximately 75% of emergency responses are for hazardous materials spills or releases, such as illegal dumping, intentional or unintentional illicit discharge that could impact water, airborne releases, pesticide spills, medical/biohazard waste. Approximately 25% of responses are for gasoline, diesel fuel or oil spills, mostly from vehicle/truck accidents.



### **FY 2020 Highlights and HazMat Emergency Response examples:**



#### **LLCHD HazMat Team Responds to Suspicious Articles**

-LLCHD HazMat Team responded to six suspicious article incidents during FY 2020. LLCHD is contacted by a number of agencies throughout the County, including LFR, LPD, LSO, and NSP to assist in identifying unknown materials. Instances range from illegal drug labs and explosives manufacture to white powder/suspicious material received in the mail.

#### **LLCHD and HazMat Team Support Local Mutual Aid Association**

-LLCHD supported our local mutual aid association with a funeral standby and procession escort in Lincoln, for a 1<sup>st</sup> responder who passed away. LLCHD HazMat Team responders participate in these ceremonies to show support for other response agencies and the grieving families during these difficult times.



#### **LLCHD HazMat Team Work to Protect the Natural Environment**



-LLCHD HazMat Team respond to hazardous waste issues throughout the County, including sites where hazardous materials are illegally dumped in ditches, ravines, and waterways. This particular site was comprised of approximately 60 cans of oil and latex paint. LLCHD HazMat Team oversaw the cleanup and remediation of this site. The responsible party was later identified and is being charged with the cleanup costs.



## **LLCHD HazMat Responds, Directs Clean-up of 100 Gallon Diesel Spill in Waterway**

-LLCHD HazMat Team responded to 35 petroleum spills in 2020. A relatively common occurrence, vehicle accidents resulting in petroleum releases can affect our waterways. In this instance, LLCHD HazMat team staff oversaw the cleanup of a ruptured fuel tank that released approximately 100 gallons of diesel fuel. Due to rain, diesel entered storm drains and ultimately discharged into Beal Slough. Working with LFR and the City contractor, residual fuel in the vehicle tanks was pumped out, hidry placed around site to prevent further fuel from entering storm drains, and booms deployed in numerous waterways East and West of Beal Slough to ensure containment.



## **LLCHD HazMat Responders Aid Various Departments Throughout the City**



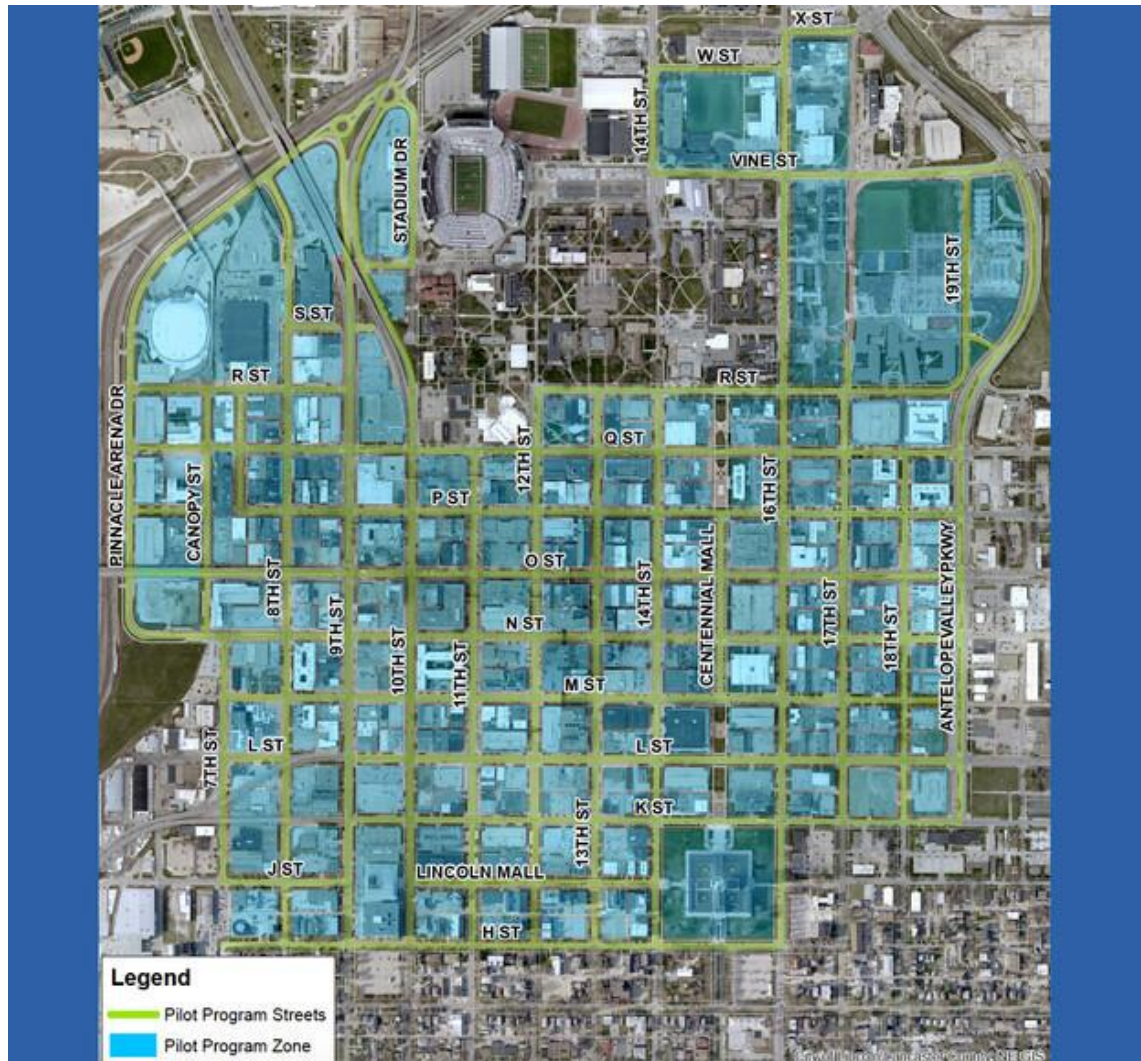
-LLCHD HazMat Team staff ensured safe and legal cleanup, packaging, and disposal of various flammable, explosive, and reactive materials located in a City storage facility. Our highly skilled and knowledgeable staff do not hesitate to aid other departments and agencies within the County and State. As such, we are oftentimes called upon to serve as subject matter experts with regard to handling, treatment, and disposal of a myriad of hazardous materials.

**Partnerships & Efficiencies:** The Health Department HazMat Emergency Response Team works in partnership with Lincoln Fire and Rescue, rural fire departments, law enforcement agencies and other first responders to prepare for, train for, and respond to both unintentional and intentional HazMat incidents. LLCHD is a member of Lancaster County Mutual Aid. Staff are on call 24/7 to provide immediate response to protect the public's health. Coordinating hazardous materials emergency responses with fire and law enforcement agencies allows each agency to fulfill specific roles within the Incident Command System, reduces risks to responders, public health and the environment, and allows first responders to return to service as quickly as possible. Health's role in environmental cleanup and follow through increases the capacity for fire and law enforcement to fulfill their primary roles in safety and security and assure that costs for environmental clean-up are kept to a minimum.

# HEALTH PROMOTION & OUTREACH

## CHRONIC DISEASE PREVENTION

- This year's "International Walk your Child to School Day" event has been cancelled. LTU has hired a new for a new position – an Active Transportation Coordinator, and plans are being made to host virtual efforts to replace the traditional onsite event that was planned for Saint Peter's Elementary in 2020. Roll out of LTU's School Zone Guidelines that staff assisted in developing over the past two years will now occur in 2021.
- Planning is proceeding on this year's Street's Alive event which is to be held on October 4. With the 10th anniversary of "Street's Alive" and the 10th anniversary of Partnership for a Healthy Lincoln occurring this year, special events are being planned to be virtual leading up to Oct. 4 and live on-line events on Oct. 4.
- An educational event was held on Saturday, August 29 near the Farmer's Market in the Haymarket that several hundred people of various ages attended to meet representatives from both Bird and Spin. The official kickoff of the program was Tuesday, September 1. In the first two weeks of the program over 7,200 trips were made; an average of more than 500 trips each day. Below is a map of the area for the pilot program where scooters are available.







- To communicate effectively to inform and educate, the Hub is expanding its community outreach electronically and has produced a 1-minute long video highlighting the program and inviting participation. This video will be used at Streets Alive and placed on LLCHD Chronic Disease website: <https://youtu.be/bWxPuhlN8Bk>.

## TOBACCO

- Tobacco Retailer Compliance: Staff coordinated a tobacco retailer compliance check with LPD and 2 youth volunteers resulting in a noncompliance rate of 20.8%, the single highest rate of any compliance check event in the last seven years. The 2019 non-compliance rate was 5%. Staff is working closely with LPD to monitor the situation. Three additional checks are scheduled for 2020. An educational letter will be sent to tobacco and vapor retailers before the next check.

## INJURY PREVENTION

- Staff coordinated two car seat check events this reporting period. One at LLCHD sponsored by Safe Kids Lincoln-Lancaster County. 17 seats were checked by 8 certified child passenger safety (CPS) technicians. 4 seats were provided to families in need. The second as part of the CPS technician certification training at AAA Nebraska. 30 seats were checked by 10 newly certified technicians and 7 veteran CPS technicians. 12 seats were provided to families in need.

## EMPLOYEE WELLNESS

- Two HeartAware events with Bryan Health were held in August, serving 25 City employees. On August 18, thirteen (13) employees participated in the screening at the Water Resource Recovery Center at 2400 Theresa Street. On August 19, twelve (12) employees participated in the screening at the Municipal Services Center at 901 W Bond.
- The Wellness Coordinator presented to the City-wide Safety Committee on September 10, regarding “COVID Stress Impact on Workplace Safety.” Multiple studies show the majority of accidents are caused by stress or lack of focus on the task at hand, so this presentation walked Safety Committee members through being able to recognize if an employee is not giving their full attention to their work, and identified ways to approach such situations. The presentation also educated participants on the effects stress can have on body, mood and behavior and the importance of and ways to foster mental well-being.
- A City and County-wide step challenge, STEPtember, launched August 31. For four weeks, employees in teams of three submit their weekly step totals to earn bragging rights. There are two divisions – competitive and recreational. Each week, employees receive wellness tips with the link to submit their steps – these have included nutrition information, how exercise impacts sleep and vice versa, stretching and strength

### *City-County Wellness Committee Presents:*

## **SEPTEMBER**

- What: A 4-week step challenge.
  - Two divisions available: Recreational (max. steps logged per week is 87,500/individual) and Competitive (no max. steps/week).
  - The team in each division to log the most steps will win special recognition.
- Who: All City and County employees are eligible to participate in teams of three to compete for bragging rights.
- When: August 31 – September 27. To register, email your team name, members, and division to [aschlichting@lincoln.ne.gov](mailto:aschlichting@lincoln.ne.gov) by August 26.
- Cost: FREE!

